

have been amended and new claims 29-41 have been added.

Withdrawn claims 5-10, 12-14, 16-19, 23-25 and 27 have been canceled in this application.

Claims 1, 11 and 15 were rejected under 35 USC § 112 as the use of the term "or the like" is objected to in these three independent claims. The amendments to these claims have removed this language and it is believed that this rejection has been overcome and it is requested that it be withdrawn.

The claims have further been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting with respect to applicant's previous Patents 6,012,688 and 5,839,705 in view of the Allen '152 reference. Applicant is of the opinion that this rejection should not stand, however, he is presenting herewith a Terminal Disclaimer with respect to those two patents and request that it be accepted to overcome these rejections.

It is believed that the newly added claims are clearly within the scope of the drawing Figures 39A, 39B, 40 and 41 of the elected species and they are clearly supported on page 29, line 20 - page 30, line 4, for example in the specification. This type of display arrangement is further not depicted in the prior art references of record.

In view of the above amendments, taken together with the remarks herein and in conjunction with the accompanying Terminal Disclaimer, applicant believes the present claims to be allowable

and consideration and early allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIKOLAI & MERSEREAU, P.A.



C. G. Mersereau
Registration No. 26,205
Attorneys for Applicant(s)
820 International Centre
900 Second Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55402
Telephone: (612) 339-7461

CGM:bld

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Amendment Under 37 CFR 1.111 (10pp.), in response to the Official Action of December 18, 2001, together with a Transmittal Letter and a Terminal Disclaimer, in application Serial No. 09/767,442, filed on January 23, 2001, of Lester A. LaMotte, entitled "COLLAPSIBLE DISPLAY SYSTEM" is being sent by facsimile transmission to: Examiner Kimberly Wood, Art Unit 3632, Technology Center 1600, Commissioner of Patents, Washington D. C. 20231 on 4 March 2002, facsimile No. 703-305-3691. *didn't work*
& *6* 703-305-3597.



Anna C. Lemke
On behalf of C. G. Mersereau
Attorney for Applicants
Date of Signature: March 4, 2002

Marked-Up Version of Amended Claims

1 (Amended). A readily assembled and disassembled knock-down, self-supporting display unit that extends and retracts to accommodate and display a variety of display devices including banners [or the like] in a variety of sizes comprising:

- (a) a pair of adjustable telescoping mounting members comprising upper and lower mounting members for carrying opposite ends of a display banner, each of said mounting members further comprising at least two relatively movable telescoping members;
- (b) elongate flexible telescoping brace members, each of said brace members further comprising at least two relatively movable telescoping members for connecting to and spacing said pair of hollow tubular mounting rods and thereby maintaining a banner carried therebetween in tension, said brace members being designed to form an X pattern;
- (c) a releasable locking device associated with the telescoping members of each said mounting members and said brace members to lock the respective member at a desired length; and
- (d) a central member adapted to retain said telescoping brace members which form therewith an X-brace system.

11 (Amended). A readily assembled multi-unit, knock-down, self-supporting snap-fit display stand for displaying a variety of

display devices including banners [or the like] comprising a plurality of display units assembled consecutively, each said unit comprising:

- (a) an opposed pair of mounting members upper and lower mounting members for carrying opposite ends of a display banner, each tube having an end hub;
- (b) elongate flexible brace members for connecting to a corresponding opposed pair of mounting members in each quadrilateral thereby maintaining the banner carried therebetween in tension, said brace members designed to form an X pattern;
- (c) a releasable locking device associated with the telescoping members of each said mounting members and said brace members to lock the respective member at a desired length;
- (d) integral locking recesses in said hubs for locking said structures together; and
- (e) snap fitting connector for removably connecting said ends together to form systems of a plurality of consecutive display units.

15(Amended). A readily assembled and disassembled knock-down, self-supporting display unit for carrying a variety of display devices including banners [or the like] comprising:

- (a) a pair of mounting members for carrying opposite ends of

- a display banner;
- (b) a central hub member having a plurality of elongated diverging recesses each for receiving an end of one of a plurality of strut members which form therewith an X-brace system and a central recess in said central hub member for receiving a snap-in connector; and
- (c) pairs of elongate flexible brace members having ends adapted to be received in said central hub member and free ends for connecting to and spacing said mounting members and thereby maintaining a banner carried therebetween in tension.